

HONORING JEANNINE BAXTER FOR
HER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE AT
THE DU QUOIN STATE FAIR

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Jeannine Baxter who is returning for her 25th year as the First Lady of the front office at the Du Quoin State Fair.

Since its beginning in 1923, the Du Quoin State Fair has brought joy and entertainment to generations of families in Southern Illinois and throughout the entire Midwest. And for a quarter of the fair's history, Jeannine Baxter has been greeting fair goers, workers and visiting dignitaries with grace and her ever present smile. Jeannine's love of the fair is infectious and her knowledge and professionalism ensure that everything runs smoothly so everyone is sure to have a good time.

While Jeannine has been at her post for a quarter of a century, the 84 year old shows no sign of slowing down. She worked for 20 years at Illinois Power Company in Du Quoin where her professionalism and enthusiasm proved as much of a joy for customers and staff of that utility company as for the fair goers and staff of the Du Quoin State Fair.

The Du Quoin State Fair opens on Friday, August 22, which has been declared Jeannine Baxter Day at the Fair and Jeannine will serve as Grand Marshal for the opening day parade.

In addition to her work at the fair, Jeannine is active in the community in other roles. She has served for many years on the Du Quoin Park Board, working to improve her home town with recreation and opportunities for young people. She has also worked as an election judge for many, many years and has been a welcoming face both on Election Day and at early voting hours for her neighbors as they participate in the electoral process.

Jeannine has been blessed with a large family, including eight children, 25 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. Her family is a source of great joy for Jeannine especially since they are able to get together for a family reunion every year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Jeannine Baxter well and thanking her for her quarter of a century of service at the Du Quoin State Fair.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FORRESTAL COMPLEX REDEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2014

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I introduce the Department of Energy Forrestral Complex Redevelopment Act to direct the General Services Administrator (GSA) to redevelop this site using its authorities to enter into public-private partnerships in accordance with the National Capital Planning Commission's (NCP) Southwest (SW) Ecodistrict Plan. The Department of Energy (DOE) Forrestral Complex is located at

1000 Independence Avenue SW., and has the potential to serve as a gateway to renewed development in this section of the National Mall area in downtown Washington. For many years, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and its Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management have expressed concern about excess federal property, wasteful spending, energy efficiency, and space utilization practices. This bill, which would maximize use of valuable, centrally located land for public and private uses, responds to this concern.

GSA and DOE have been assessing the needs of the DOE and any costs and benefits associated with disposing of the assets at the complex. In the last few months, GSA released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for two of its properties in close proximity to the DOE Forrestral Complex, the Cotton Annex and the GSA Regional Office Building, which are part of the SW Ecodistrict Plan. Portions of the Forrestral Complex lie between these two parcels, and their redevelopment will aid the in the realization of the SW Ecodistrict Plan, which has been embraced by the NCP and the District of Columbia.

Redevelopment of the Forrestral Complex will enable mixed-use development, and it would accommodate the uses agreed to in the SW Ecodistrict Plan. The plan includes a modern headquarters for DOE that combines reduced but more efficient utilization of federal government office space, more sustainable practices to preserve energy and water, and the possible location of a nationally significant museum or memorial. In addition, it would bring the SW Ecodistrict closer to fruition.

I urge my colleagues to support this timely, important legislation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER PETER T. COURTNEY ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 24 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND TO OUR NATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Commander Peter T. Courtney, on his retirement after 24 years of Commissioned Service to the United States Navy and for his extraordinary dedication to duty and to the United States of America.

I have worked with Commander Courtney personally over the past five years—first in 2009, when he was a Defense Legislative Fellow assigned to my office, and then for three years as the Deputy Director, Appropriations Liaison in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller). I would like to share with you some highlights of his fine career.

Commander Peter Courtney graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science. Following Commissioning and flight school, he was designated a Naval Flight Officer. He reported to his first sea assignment aboard USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN-71) flying the F-14 Tomcat. He then transferred to Navy Fighter Weapons School for duty as a

TOPGUN Instructor. He later reported to Fighter Squadron Thirty Two (VF-32) aboard USS *Enterprise* (CVN-65) and participated in Operation SOUTHERN WATCH and direct action missions during Operation DESERT FOX. After he completed his Master of Arts degree at the Naval War College he reported to USS *George Washington* (CVN-73) participating in Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and ENDURING FREEDOM.

Peter served with distinction in a variety of assignments ashore: as Aide to then Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Vern Clark; Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management & Comptroller) as a Congressional Appropriations Liaison; and with Office of the Chief of Naval Operations Staff for the Naval Aviation Enterprise, including Adversary Aircraft Requirements, Acquisition Reform, and Manpower Planning and Resourcing.

After completing a Military Legislative Fellowship, Commander Courtney reported to his current assignment as Deputy Director Navy Appropriations Matters Office where he helped the Department of the Navy achieve their financial and legislative goals. For nearly four years, Commander Courtney has demonstrated exceptional leadership and foresight, engaging Members of the Appropriations Committee and its Staff to provide information essential to resourcing the Navy for its role as the world's dominant sea power. In an increasingly difficult budget environment, Commander Courtney provided essential support in shepherding three Navy budgets through the appropriations process. Peter served our Navy and nation with integrity, insight and dedication. My office, the subcommittee staff, and I have found him to be a pleasure to work with and all respect his professionalism.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Commander Peter T. Courtney for his extraordinary dedication to duty and steadfast service to this country throughout his distinguished career. We wish Peter, "Fair Winds and Following Seas," as he leaves the Naval Service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN RESTORATION ACT OF 2014

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Columbia River Basin Restoration Act, a bill that would bring much needed resources to cleaning up toxic pollution in the Columbia River Basin. The Columbia River is the largest river in the Pacific Northwest. The River and its tributaries provide significant ecological and economic benefits to the Pacific Northwest and the entire United States. Historically, the Columbia and its tributaries have constituted the largest salmon-producing river system in the world, with annual returns peaking at 16 million fish.

The Columbia River was designated an Estuary of National Significance in 1995 and a Large Aquatic Ecosystem (LAE) by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2006. Yet it remains the only LAE to receive zero

Congressional funding—despite a growing problem of toxic contamination throughout the River Basin.

Toxics are present throughout the Columbia River Basin, and are harmful to humans, fish, and wildlife. These contaminants make their way into fish tissues, which, when consumed, can be harmful for human health. Some of these toxics are known to cause cancer, and have been linked with neurological, developmental and reproductive problems, including birth defects and learning disabilities. This concern is particularly pressing for tribal populations, who consume local fish in large quantities.

Last year, the States of Oregon and Washington issued fish advisories warning the public to protect itself against mercury and PCB contamination by limiting consumption of resident fish species living in the 150 mile stretch of river between Bonneville and McNary Dams.

This bill would authorize the EPA to establish a voluntary, competitive Columbia River Basin grants program for projects that assist in eliminating or reducing pollution, improving water quality, monitoring, and promoting citizen engagement. Eligible entities may include States, Indian tribes, local governments, nonprofits, and private landowners. The legislation authorizes \$50 million per year for five years for this effort, which are estimated to create between 700 and 1,000 family wage jobs per year in the region.

This bill is supported by a diverse group of stakeholders including the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association, and Salmon-Safe. Now is the time to clean up the Columbia River and improve water quality and river health for generations to come.

CHILD TAX CREDIT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4935, the Child Tax Credit Improvement Act. Under current law, the child tax credit is not indexed for inflation. The bill before us today would index the child tax credit for inflation, as well as achieve the important step of abolishing the so-called “marriage penalty” in current tax code.

Importantly, the Child Tax Credit Improvement Act also contains a provision to require those filers claiming the refundable portion of the tax credit to provide a Social Security Number. This seems like pure common sense, but right now, the IRS accepts the use of the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) to get this credit. An ITIN number demonstrates only that someone has taxable income, not that they are in the country legally. In fact, a 2011 Treasury Inspector General report found that \$4.2 billion in refundable tax credits were issued to individuals not authorized to work in the United States.

In this Congress and in the 112th Congress, I cosponsored legislation to require the inclusion of a Social Security Number on a tax re-

turn as a prerequisite to receiving the refundable portion of the child tax credit, and I am glad to see the inclusion of that language in the bill before us today.

Mr. Speaker, while we must take steps to reduce the burden on hardworking parents in this nation, I also believe that we must work to ensure that people do not abuse our tax system to receive tax credits for which they are not eligible. The legislation before us today accomplishes both of those goals.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GRADUATION OF JANICE JENNINGS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for the House's attention today to recognize Janice Jennings who is graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the Capstone College of Nursing at the University of Alabama.

Mrs. Jennings was born in Anniston, Alabama. She graduated from Saks High School and went on to attend Gadsden State University, where she got her degree in Nursing. In 1983, Jan married her husband Jeff and soon after in 1987, her only daughter, Jessica, was born. Jan went on to receive her Business degree from Jacksonville State University in 1989. Perhaps most notably, Jan welcomed another addition into the Jennings' household in 2010: a labradoodle named Tully.

Although she lives in North Carolina now, Jan remains a dedicated fan of the University of Alabama. This dedication to her beloved Crimson Tide has led her to pursue a degree from the University. Through hard work and dedication, she will be achieving a lifelong goal on August 2, when she walks across the stage in Coleman Coliseum to receive her degree.

Mr. Speaker, we join her family and friends in celebrating Jan's accomplishments and congratulating her with a hearty Roll Tide.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ALEKSEY BOLOTNIKOV, AND DR. RALPH JAMES OF BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brookhaven National Laboratory, located in my congressional district and recognized by R&D Magazine for developing a novel radiation detection technology.

Often referred to as the “Oscars of Innovation,” the annual R&D 100 Awards are given to the top 100 most technologically significant products each year from around the world. I am proud that this prestigious honor has been bestowed upon Long Island's own Brookhaven National Laboratory, which is jointly managed by Stony Brook University and Battelle for the Department of Energy (DOE).

A team of scientists led by Dr. Aleksey Bolotnikov and Dr. Ralph James at Brookhaven developed GammaScout, a compact hand-held high-resolution radiation detector, as well as the electronics and software to make it functional. This project was funded by the National Nuclear Security Administration's Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation research and development program.

The GammaScout technology will be especially useful in tracking the movement of radioactive materials and the imaging of radiopharmaceuticals in oncology and cardiology. Its application could also be used in real-time dosimeters, x-ray radiography, mineral exploration, and materials sorting and recycling. As a result, this new technology has the potential to improve our homeland and national security, protect first responders and the environment, and even make it easier to diagnose disease and save lives.

This detector technology works at room temperature, making it particularly unique and useful in the field. Previous technologies had to be cryogenically cooled for the same high-resolution radiation detection, thus confining critical work to a laboratory setting.

I am very proud to recognize Dr. Bolotnikov, Dr. James and their team of scientists, which also included colleagues from Korea University for winning one of only 32 R&D 100 Awards given to DOE laboratories. This speaks volumes about the value of these labs and the importance of their contributions to the nation, economy, and national security.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's First Congressional District, I congratulate the scientists and laboratory leadership for this well-deserved award. It is a timely reminder that Brookhaven National Laboratory remains a valuable asset to Long Island, New York, and our nation.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH FROEHLICH

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Union County Sheriff Ralph Froehlich, posthumously, and the many contributions he has made as a dedicated public servant in Union County and a beloved leader in the State of New Jersey.

Sheriff Froehlich was a great man and an incredible public servant. Following his eight year service in the United States Marine Corp, he had sought a career in law enforcement. He had faithfully served as Sheriff of Union County since 1977 and was in his thirteenth term.

Sheriff Froehlich was a pioneer in law enforcement, starting many programs to protect the county, including gun safety programs for children and teens; ‘Union County's Most Wanted’ television program, which led to the apprehension of over 80 Union County murderers and felons; the Missing Persons Unit and Domestic Violence Unit; and a K-9 Search and Rescue Unit. In an effort to share services with other law enforcement agencies, Sheriff Froehlich implemented a Municipal Transportation Program to assist local police departments. He also vociferously spoke out in favor of more regulations on guns.